

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization  
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date  
26 April 2001 (26.04.2001)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number  
**WO 01/29875 A2**

(51) International Patent Classification<sup>7</sup>: **H01J 49/00**

1 Wenlock Road, Sale, Manchester M33 3TR (GB). **NUTTALL, James, Edward** [GB/GB]; 3 Reeds Close, Rawtenstall, Rossendale, Lancashire BB4 8ND (GB).

(21) International Application Number: **PCT/GB00/03964**

(74) Agent: **MATHISEN, MACARA & CO.**; The Coach House, 6-8 Swakeleys Road, Ickenham, Uxbridge, Middlesex UB10 8BZ (GB).

(22) International Filing Date: 16 October 2000 (16.10.2000)

(81) Designated States (national): JP, RU, US.

(25) Filing Language: **English**

(84) Designated States (regional): European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE).

(26) Publication Language: **English**

Published:

(30) Priority Data: **9924722.3 19 October 1999 (19.10.1999) GB**

— *Without international search report and to be republished upon receipt of that report.*

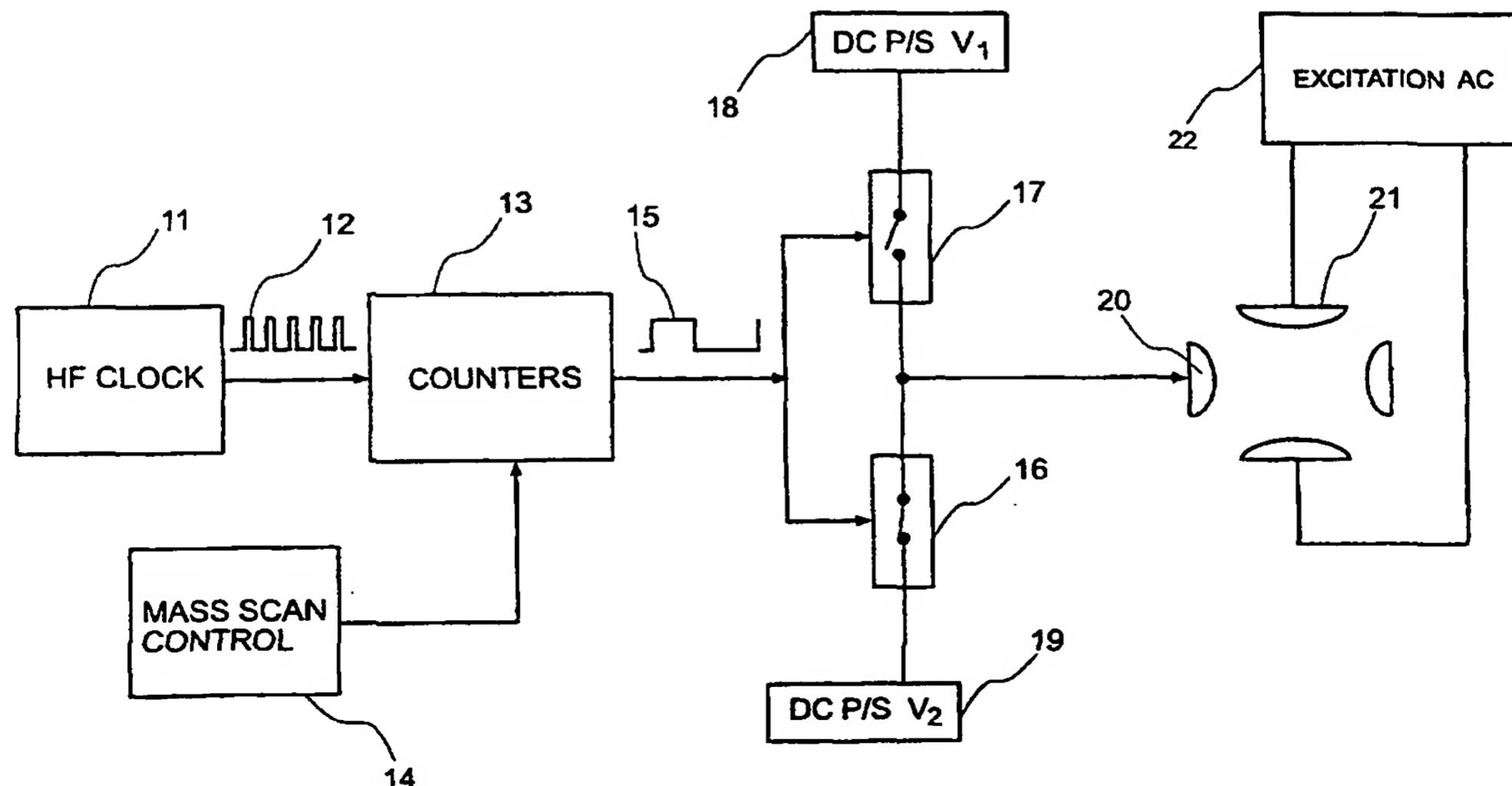
(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **SHIMADZU RESEARCH LABORATORY (EUROPE) LTD.** [GB/GB]; Wharfside, Trafford Wharf Road, Manchester M17 1GP (GB).

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): **DING, Li** [CN/GB];

(54) Title: **METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR DRIVING A QUADRUPOLE ION TRAP DEVICE**



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(57) Abstract: A digital drive apparatus (Fig. 3) for quadrupole device such as a quadrupole ion trap has a digital signal generator (11, 13, 14; 24, 25, 26) and a switching arrangement (16, 17) which alternately switches between high and low voltage levels (V<sub>1</sub>, V<sub>2</sub>) to generate a rectangular wave drive voltage. A dipole excitation voltage is also supplied to the quadrupole device to excite resonant oscillatory motion of ions.